# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:970
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002
PIO ACTION PLAN
RAM SHAKAL

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government are considering some measures to make the `People of Indian Origin Action Plan` more attractive and popular;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have constituted a separate `NRIPI` to exploit the potential of and to provide better services to the NRI community; and

(d) if so, the progress made after its constitution?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. It is presumed that the Hon`ble Member is asking for information on the Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) Card Scheme. The Government has accepted, in principle, the recommendation of the High Level Committee on the Indian Diaspora to modify the existing PIO Card Scheme to make it more attractive. Details are being finalised.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The new NRI-PIO Division has compiled substantial amount of information pertaining to the overseas Indian community and prepared detailed profiles on all segments of the Indian Diaspora. The Government had set up a High Level Committee on the Indian Diaspora and the Division served as its Secretariat. The Division is currently actively engaged in the follow up of the various recommendations made by the Committee in its Report.